

RARITAN VALLEY ARTS ASSOCIATION est. 1939

April 2003 NEWSLETTER

President: Linda Arnold
Newsletter: Diana Patton
497 Stony Brook Drive
Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Spring Rains Greetings!

Which is probably better than more Snowflake Greetings, at this point! We're all ready for a little color--daffodil yellow, purple crocus--and warmth at this point. And if you want color, do come Monday, April 21st, 7:30 pm, to Somerset County Library, for a demo in pastels by Christina de Barry. Many of you have enjoyed Christina's luminous award-winning paintings, and some of you who've seen her demo, will joyfully welcome Christina back. Those of you who've not watch her work, are in for a new treat! We thank Program Chairwoman Debbie Tintle for this program (and on May 19th, for watercolorist Ann Taylor). We also thank Barbara Fiorintino for providing coffee and other refreshment for our April meeting.

Our show at the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission Gallery under Judy Hummer's leadership (with Mary Ann Creasy's help) is still up; you've until April 16th to view it. Artists will please pick up their work between 10 am and noon that day. Eleanor DeMott's lovely oil of zinnias in a floral arrangement and Mary Creasy's handsome horse and dog painting sold! A nice article, mentioning all the artists, was in the March 13th edition of the Somerset MESSENGER GAZETTE.

Debbie Hughes is working on our bus trip to New York City. You all know by now it's Saturday, April 26th, leaving 8:45 from the Somerset County Library's upper parking lot (near the VoTech School). First it's the Met and you may stay there all day, or at 3, the bus will go downtown to the Salmagundi for AWS Show, and/or the Forbes Museum. Those who stayed at the Met will be picked up at 4:30; downtowners at 5. Snacks and drinks on the way home--Bridgewater about 6 pm. All this for \$25. (you pay for museum admittance and lunch, of course). Please send check made out to RVAA to Debbie Hughes, 255 Falmouth Place, Bridgewater, NJ 08807; 908/725-4639 for more info. Guests are welcome.

As you know, RVAA has not had a judged show for a few years. We can have one if we can have a VOLUNTEER CHAIRPERSON. Elsa Herrmann, who was our Chairwoman for years and years, did move to south Jersey, but she left a list of possible judges and their phone numbers, as well as awards certificates and ribbons. But we need a Chair. Please phone President Linda Arnold at 908/646-3610 to volunteer. We'll be glad you did, and you will too.

The Lamington Presbyterian Church Show is upcoming! Delivery is the first part of May. If you wish an application, please call the church at 908/439-2629. Also, from now until June, the Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn presents a show of the Full Members of the New Jersey Watercolor Society (with two works each). Some of the RVAAers in that show are Debbie Tintle, Fran Maurer, Joan McKinney, Diana Patton, and Ruth Wilson. Also upcoming is the 23rd Annual Wildlife Art & Carving Show at the Somerset County Park Commission's Environmental Education Center in Basking Ridge with a preview show from now until May and then the entire big show on Sat. and Sunday, May 3 & 4th, 10-5. As far as your editor knows, RVAAers Debbie Tintle, Ron Tolles, and Diana Patton will be in that one.

If you would like to show at Madeline's on Vosseller Rd on the Bridgewater/Bound Brook border, please phone Diana Patton at 908/722-0562, or drop me a note (safer). We take down the present show April 31st and are basically looking for 3 or 4 artists who can come that morning and put up 3-4 paintings. Although we've not yet had sales yet from that venue, it is a lovely place.

Finally, under the general "arts" category, Bridgewater Township is now sponsoring their seventh season of JAZZ with the first performance being Sat. April 26th at 8 pm featuring the Tomcats Big Band, in a glowing tribute to Count Basie and his music. Please obtain the brochure from the Bridgewater Municipal Building or phone 908/526-8900, ext 7219.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

ELEANOR MOREHOUSE had a one-woman show of her oil paintings and prints at the Franklin Township Library on DeMott Lane in Somerset, in February through March 18th.

BARBARA BRIDEN and RUTH WILSON are in the current group show at the Jacob Swerdlow Gallery, 311 Union Avenue, April 6--May 17th. The Opening Reception is from 1--4 pm on April 6th. All are welcome to come.

LINDA McCAUSLAND had a show at the Bernardsville Library, "Landscapes and Cityscapes."

DIANA PATTON will be in the group show "Spring for Art" April 19th--May 17th at the Hills Gallery, Nelson's Corner, 601 Rte. 206 in Hillsborough, with the Opening Reception Saturday, April 19th 4-7. All are cordially invited.

NONA RUTTER and DEBBIE SEYMOUR had a display of their pastel paintings at the Clarence Dillon Public Library in Bedminster in March.

The Bridgewater Committee for Creative Arts Ninth Annual Art Exhibit at the Bridgewater Municipal Building, with many RVAAers exhibiting, just ended (one had to either work or live in Bridgewater, or take a class with a Bridgewater artist to be in the show--do think about it for next year!). In the Professional Category, DIANA PATTON won First Place, RUTH WILSON won Second Place, SUSAN FUREY won Third Place, and KEN BERNHARD won Honorable Mention. In the Non-Pro Category, BARBARA BRIDEN won First Place, DORIS PECK won Second Place, and MARY ANN CREASY, JIM LAUBACH, and GERI OLDMAN were awarded Honorable Mentions.

As you can see, art shows are a-poppin', so please keep me posted with YOUR NEWS!